

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 258359

47

ORIGIN SY-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 /011 R

DRAFTED BY A/SY/FO:WHSARGENT:JP
APPROVED BY A/SY/FO - ROBERT J. MCCARTHY
A/SY/FO - BPFUSELIER

----- 088604

R 222130Z NOV 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 258359

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC
SUBJECT: FULLY ARMORED VEHICLE FOR BEIRUT

FOR RSOS BEIRUT AND TEL AVIV, AND RSS BEIRUT

1. PROPOSE TO SEND BEIRUT A NEW FULLY ARMORED CAR FOR
USE BY COM. THIS CAR WILL BE TESTED AT CONTRACTOR'S
PLANT IN COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA ON/ABOUT NOV. 27 AND
WILL BE READY FOR SHIPMENT APPROX DEC. 1. ON RECEIPT
THIS CAR, PROPOSE BEIRUT SEND THEIR PRESENT FULLY ARMORED
71 CHEV IMPALA NO. 164691C183049 TO TEL AVIV.

2. CAR IS A 1974 CHRYSLER NEW YORKER SERIAL NO.
CS41T4C194412, PURCHASE NO. 2029-490002, BLACK IN COLOR,
IT WEIGHS APPROX 6100 LBS. IT HAS A 440 CID 4 BBL CARB
ENGINE ADJUSTED TO BURN REGULAR FUEL, WITH POWER OUTPUT OF
APPROX 275 HORSE POWER AT SEA LEVEL. WHEREVER POSSIBLE,
MECHANICAL SYSTEMS ARE HEAVY DUTY. BOTH HOOD AND TRUNK
LATCHES CAN BE CONTROLLED WITHIN CAR. TIRES ARE SPECIAL
LOAD RANGE D (EQUIVALENT TO 6-8 PLY), AND HAVE STEEL/
RUBBER INNER SAFETY ROLLERS CAPABLE OF PROVIDING LIFT AND
MANEUVERING CAPABILITY AFTER THE TIRE HAS BEEN SHREDDED
FROM GRENADE OR WEAPONS FIRE. SIDE AND REAR OPAQUE SUR-
FACES HAVE COMBINATION ALUMINUM OXIDE/GLASS REINFORCED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 258359

PLASTIC CERAMIC ARMOR INSTALLED, CAPABLE OF DEFEATING UP

TO AND INCLUDING CAL. .30 MILITARY BALL AMMO (ALSO 7.62

NATO AND 7.62M43 RUSSIAN, SUCH AS FIRED FROM AK-47 ASSAULT RIFLE). SIDE AND REAR TRANSPARENT ARMOR IS A GLASS/PLASTIC COMPOSITE ARMOR WHICH WILL ALSO DEFEAT CAL. .30. FRONT WINDSHIELD IS A MOLDED MONOLITHIC POLYCARBONATE WITH HARDENED SURFACES CAPABLE OF DEFEATING UP TO 9MM PISTOL/SUBMACHINE GUN FIRE AT 0 DEGREES OBLIQUITY, BUT NOT INCLUDING RIFLE FIRE, ALTHOUGH IT WILL DEFEAT MORE SEVERE FIRE TO AN UNKNOWN DEGREE AT ANGLES. FLOOR PAN COVERED WITH 12 PLYS OF GLASS REINFORCED PLASTIC (GRP) CAPABLE OF DEFEATING PENETRATION OF FRAGMENTS FROM U.S. M-67 GRENADE. GAS TANK CAPABLE OF WITHSTANDING GRENADE ON FRONT AND UNDERNEATH AND 9MM FROM SIDES AND REAR. ROOF CONSISTS OF GRP TO DEFEAT 9MM. FRONT END BEHIND GRILL REINFORCED WITH 1 1/4 INCH STEEL PIPE AND GRP LOUVRES. ONE OTHER SECURITY SYSTEM OF NOTE IS A FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM INSTALLED IN TRUNK OF VEHICLE. AGENT USED IS FE1301, A GAS WHICH CAN BE DELIVERED UNDER PRESSURE TO NOZZELS PLACED TO FLOOD THE GAS TANK AND ENGINE COMPARTMENT AREAS. THIS SYSTEM CAN BE ACTIVATED MANUALLY BY THE DRIVER (PRESSURE DEVICE PLACED TO LEFT OF WHEEL ON DASH) OR AUTOMATICALLY BY AN ELECTRONIC HEAT SENSING DEVICE. FE1301 WILL NOT DAMAGE VEHICULAR COMPONENTS NOR INJURE OCCUPANTS. SECURITY SYSTEMS HAVE ADDED APPROX 1,100 LBS. TO WEIGHT OF CAR, BUT THE EXTRA HEAVY DUTY SPRINGS AND FRAME WILL ABSORB THIS ADDITIONAL WEIGHT ACCEPTABLY. DURING TESTS, THIS CAR WAS VERY MANEUVERABLE DURING HIGH SPEED LANE SHIFTS ON HIGHWAYS, CORNERED AND HELD WELL AT HIGH SPEEDS ON NARROW MOUNTAIN ROADS, WAS QUITE RESPONSIVE AND MANEUVERABLE AT LOW AND INTERMEDIATE SPEEDS ON NARROW CITY STREETS, STOPPED QUICKLY AND ACCELERATED FROM STOP TO 60 MPH IN 12 SECONDS. HOWEVER, IT IS A GAS BURNER UNDER CITY DRIVING CONDITIONS (ITS MILES PER GALLON ARE UNKNOWN). ALL SECURITY SYSTEMS DESCRIBED ARE VIRTUALLY UNNOTICEABLE FROM OUTSIDE, AND ONLY THICKNESS OF GLASS ON SIDE WINDOWS BETRAY THAT IT IS ARMORED WHEN DOORS ARE OPENED. ORIGINAL REAR WINDOW HAS BEEN REMOVED AND SPACE LARGELY TAKEN UP BY VINYL COVERED (AS IS ROOF) CERAMIC ARMOR, WITH OPERA

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 258359

WINDOW STYLE REAR LIGHT. THIS IS ALSO CONSIDERED A DESIRABLE SECURITY CHARACTERISTIC, SINCE OBSERVATION OF REAR SEAT OCCUPANTS IS RESTRICTED, YET THIS STYLE OF HOOD SIMILAR TO THAT OF CADILLAC FLEETWOOD SEDAN. APPROX COST OF CAR IS DOL 52,000 FOB MANUFACTURER.

3. FULLY ARMORED CARS OF COURSE, WILL REMAIN UNDER GENERAL SY OPERATIONAL CONTROL. YOUR POST PROPOSED AS

RECIPIENT THIS CAPABILITY BASED ON THREATS AGAINST COM.
IF SUCH THREATS ABATE IN FUTURE, CAR MAY BE SENT TO
ANOTHER POST HAVING GREATER RELATIVE NEED. MAINTENANCE

PARTS AND SERVICE FOR FULLY ARMORED CARS ARE SY
RESPONSIBILITY. FURTHER DETAILS ON VEHICLES AND MAIN-
TENANCE REQUIREMENTS WILL FOLLOW LATER.

4. REQUEST BEIRUT AND TEL AVIV ADVISE WHETHER PROPOSED
VEHICLES ACCEPTABLE THEIR POSTS. INGERSOLL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE258359
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WHSARGENT:JP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740340-0897
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741119/aaaaapom.tel
Line Count: 125
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SY
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 AUG 2002 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <17 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FULLY ARMORED VEHICLE FOR BEIRUT FOR RSOS BEIRUT AND TEL AVIV, AND RSS BEIRUT
TAGS: ASEC
To: BEIRUT
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005